

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

The following listing of claims replaces all prior listings, and all prior versions, of claims in the above-identified application.

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently amended) A cell-mediated immunological diagnostic method for paratuberculosis characterized by comprising:
  - collecting blood of a subject animal, thereby providing collected blood;
  - adding (a) an anti-interleukin 10 (IL-10) antibody and (b) a stimulus which induces cell-mediated immunological reaction against *Mycobacterium avium* subsp. *paratuberculosis* in the collected blood, to the collected blood, so as to induce said cell-mediated immunological reaction, wherein said stimulus added to the collected blood is a *Mycobacterium avium* subsp. *paratuberculosis* antigen;
  - subsequent to said adding, measuring an amount of produced interferon- $\gamma$  (IFN $\gamma$ ) in the blood;
  - subsequent to said measuring, comparing between amounts of the produced interferon- $\gamma$  (IFN $\gamma$ ) measured in the subject animal and that in a non-infected control animal; and
  - distinguishing the subject animal from a non-infected control animal in a case where a statistically significant increase in amounts of produced interferon- $\gamma$  (IFN $\gamma$ ) is measured in the subject animal.
2. (Previously presented) A cell-mediated immunological diagnostic method for paratuberculosis according to Claim 1, characterized in that the amount of produced IFN $\gamma$  in the blood is measured by an IFN $\gamma$  ELISA method.
3. (Cancelled).

4. (Previously presented) A cell-mediated immunological diagnostic method according to Claim 1, characterized in that said stimulus added to the collected blood is selected from the group consisting of (i) *Mycobacterium avium* subsp. *paratuberculosis* PPD, (ii) live *Mycobacterium avium* subsp. *paratuberculosis* and (iii) soluble antigen obtained by sterilizing *Mycobacterium avium* subsp. *paratuberculosis* with heat to break the bacterial cells and collecting the supernatant.

5.-12. (Cancelled).

13. (Previously presented) A cell-mediated immunological diagnostic method for paratuberculosis according to Claim 1, wherein culturing is performed between said adding and said measuring.